

# Louisiana's Uninsured Population: July 2019 Parish Estimates

A Report from the 2019 LHIS



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The Louisiana Health Insurance Survey (LHIS) represents the most comprehensive data collection effort in assessing health insurance coverage in Louisiana. The survey has been conducted every two years since 2003 with analysis from the 2019 LHIS providing the most recent estimates of insurance coverage in the state. The purpose of this report is to present the uninsured rates for children and adults in each of Louisiana's 64 parishes for July 2019. The basic approach is to use a small-area estimation model with micro-level data from the LHIS, combined with administrative and census population data on key socioeconomic characteristics, to produce more robust estimates for low-population parishes. For the 2019 LHIS, parish estimates use a hierarchical Bayes method with probit model, which is especially useful in estimating the low uninsured rates (close to zero) for children with limited observations in small parishes.

## **Uninsured Population: Children under 19**

Table 1 lists the total population, estimated uninsured rates, and estimated number of uninsured for both children under 19 and adults 19-64, by parish arranged by LDH region. The estimated parish-level uninsured rates for children are also displayed in the map in Figure 1. In July 2019, uninsured rates for children are estimated to be less than 6% in all parishes except St. Mary with less than 5% in 45 parishes. The widespread availability of Medicaid for low income children has kept uninsured rates low as well as reduce geographic variability in coverage between high- and low-poverty parishes, so that nearly every parish enjoys a low uninsured rate among children. Uninsured rates range from an estimated 2.4% in Jefferson Parish to an estimated 6% in St. Mary. Collectively, these estimates show the distribution of the state's 44,213 uninsured children within the state. The three most populous parishes, East Baton Rouge, Orleans, and Jefferson parishes, have the highest absolute number of uninsured children, but some of the lowest rates in the state.

The 2015-2019 children's uninsured rate by parish is displayed in Table 2. There is no particular pattern to the years except to the statewide uninsured rates, which went down in 2017 and returned to approximately 2015 levels in 2019.

## **Uninsured Population: Adults ages 19-64**

The parish-level estimates for uninsured rates among adults are also displayed in Table 1 along with the population and estimated number of uninsured by parish. The July 2019 uninsured rates for adults by parish are estimated to be under 20% in all parishes. Uninsured rates range from an estimated 6.7% in Ascension Parish, to an estimated 17.4% in East Carroll. Figure 2 is a map depicting the adults' uninsured rate by parish. The map shows a clear geographic pattern of higher uninsured rates in the northeastern, relatively high poverty parishes of Louisiana, and lower uninsured rates throughout the I-10 corridor.

The 2015-2019 adults' uninsured rate by parish is displayed in Table 3. After a dramatic decrease between 2015 and 2017 due to the implementation of the Medicaid expansion, statewide uninsured rates decreased very slightly in 2019. Between 2017 and 2019, uninsured rates decreased in 32 of the 64 parishes.

For adults, poorer parishes still tend to have higher uninsured rates. However, a closer look at Table 3 reveals that income disparity in insurance coverage has decreased.

**Table 1 Uninsured Rate and Population for Adults and Children, July 2019**

Region	Parish	Children			Adults		
		Population	Estimated Uninsured Rate	Estimated Uninsured	Population	Estimated Uninsured Rate	Estimated Uninsured
1	Jefferson	100,581	2.4%	2,367	269,230	8.9%	23,976
	Orleans	83,074	2.6%	2,127	258,372	10.5%	27,082
	Plaquemines	6,441	2.6%	169	14,360	9.5%	1,362
	St. Bernard	12,904	2.7%	351	28,503	11.0%	3,148
2	Ascension	34,655	3.4%	1,178	74,794	6.7%	5,032
	East Baton Rouge	107,712	3.6%	3,913	283,686	7.9%	22,401
	East Feliciana	3,842	4.6%	176	12,664	9.2%	1,169
	Iberville	7,436	4.4%	325	21,054	9.2%	1,926
	Pointe Coupee	5,200	4.0%	205	12,887	8.2%	1,060
	West Baton Rouge	6,616	3.8%	249	16,219	8.2%	1,338
	West Feliciana	2,768	4.5%	123	10,789	7.2%	774
3	Assumption	5,323	5.8%	311	13,880	12.0%	1,671
	Lafourche	24,332	5.5%	1,343	60,836	11.0%	6,696
	St. Charles	13,842	4.8%	662	33,010	9.3%	3,079
	St. James	5,159	5.1%	264	13,035	11.0%	1,431
	St. John the Baptist	11,383	5.0%	571	26,892	10.8%	2,908
	St. Mary	13,208	6.0%	787	31,031	13.6%	4,206
	Terrebonne	30,281	5.4%	1,649	68,487	11.0%	7,548
4	Acadia	17,377	3.3%	570	37,019	10.1%	3,723
	Evangeline	9,131	3.5%	324	20,106	11.6%	2,335
	Iberia	20,130	3.3%	663	43,352	10.7%	4,654
	Lafayette	60,148	2.9%	1,720	153,600	8.9%	13,643
	St. Landry	23,811	3.3%	786	47,939	11.8%	5,657
	St. Martin	13,859	3.3%	451	33,003	11.1%	3,669
	Vermilion	16,306	3.1%	512	35,589	9.7%	3,444
5	Allen	6,082	3.5%	213	16,258	13.5%	2,194
	Beauregard	9,606	3.2%	308	22,091	12.1%	2,664
	Calcasieu	52,412	2.5%	1,330	121,713	12.3%	15,016
	Cameron	1,609	2.5%	40	4,287	10.5%	449
	Jefferson Davis	8,511	3.0%	255	18,458	12.4%	2,281
6	Avoyelles	10,191	4.9%	501	24,527	9.6%	2,349
	Catahoula	2,297	5.3%	123	6,095	10.3%	628
	Concordia	5,067	5.3%	268	11,912	11.0%	1,313

Region	Parish	Children			Adults		
		Population	Estimated Uninsured Rate	Estimated Uninsured	Population	Estimated Uninsured Rate	Estimated Uninsured
6	Grant	4,936	5.2%	259	14,422	10.2%	1,471
	LaSalle	3,673	4.5%	164	8,930	8.9%	791
	Rapides	34,701	4.6%	1,584	78,158	8.9%	6,979
	Vernon	13,599	5.2%	710	32,362	9.1%	2,930
	Winn	3,233	5.4%	173	8,880	10.2%	902
7	Bienville	3,263	5.3%	174	7,857	14.2%	1,112
	Bossier	33,248	4.6%	1,529	77,616	10.9%	8,483
	Caddo	62,891	5.0%	3,119	148,891	12.6%	18,755
	Claiborne	3,121	5.9%	184	10,227	15.3%	1,567
	DeSoto	6,954	5.0%	347	15,994	12.1%	1,927
	Natchitoches	9,977	5.4%	541	23,566	14.2%	3,335
	Red River	2,178	5.1%	111	4,967	15.2%	754
	Sabine	6,097	5.5%	337	13,564	13.7%	1,858
	Webster	9,503	5.5%	524	23,111	14.0%	3,247
8	Caldwell	2,432	3.9%	95	5,877	13.1%	772
	East Carroll	1,434	4.5%	65	4,867	17.4%	848
	Franklin	5,438	3.9%	210	11,610	13.1%	1,524
	Jackson	3,667	3.7%	136	9,333	13.7%	1,280
	Lincoln	10,420	3.7%	387	31,651	11.9%	3,781
	Madison	2,921	4.5%	132	7,162	15.9%	1,136
	Morehouse	6,621	4.0%	264	15,107	15.1%	2,274
	Ouachita	41,761	3.5%	1,471	94,723	13.0%	12,323
	Richland	5,214	4.0%	208	12,163	15.5%	1,884
	Tensas	1,181	4.1%	49	2,483	13.8%	342
	Union	5,356	3.9%	209	13,095	13.2%	1,727
	West Carroll	2,755	4.2%	115	6,485	13.1%	848
9	Livingston	38,022	3.9%	1,493	84,728	11.4%	9,619
	St. Helena	2,401	4.8%	116	6,228	16.6%	1,036
	St. Tammany	64,614	3.8%	2,452	150,815	10.0%	15,056
	Tangipahoa	34,052	4.7%	1,612	80,608	14.4%	11,638
	Washington	11,817	5.1%	606	27,277	15.5%	4,230
	<b>Statewide</b>	<b>1,168,774</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>44,213</b>	<b>2,878,435</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>305,256</b>

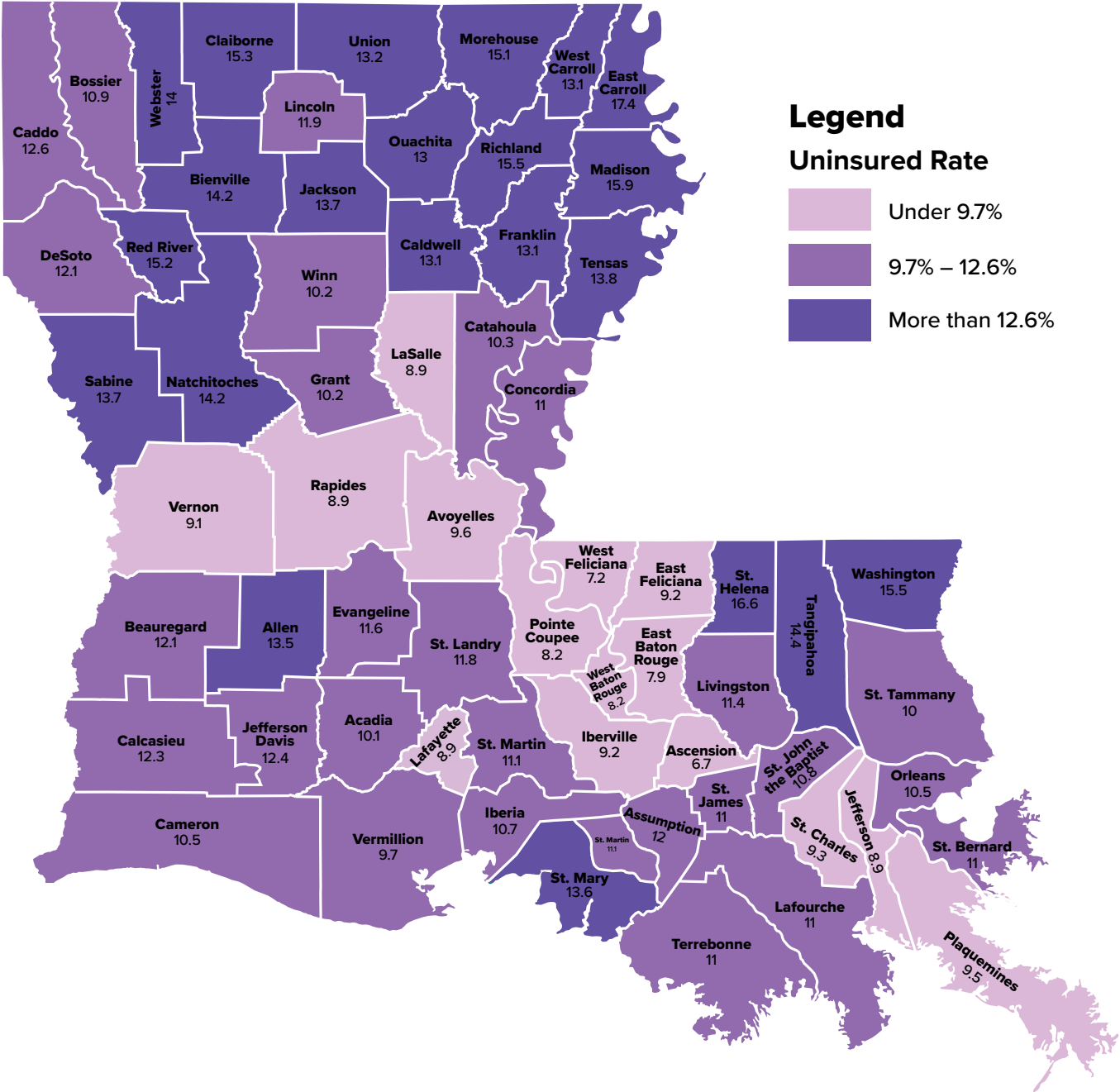
**Legend**

**Uninsured Rate**

- Under 3.6%
- 3.6% – 4.7%
- More than 4.7%

Parish	Uninsured Rate (%)
Caddo	5
Bossier	4.6
Webster	5.5
Claiborne	5.9
Union	3.9
Morehouse	4
West Carroll	4.2
East Carroll	4.5
Lincoln	3.7
Ouachita	3.5
Richland	4
Madison	4.5
Jackson	3.7
Bienville	5.3
Franklin	3.9
Tensas	4.1
Caldwell	3.9
Winn	5.4
DeSoto	5
Red River	5.1
Sabine	5.5
Natchitoches	5.4
Grant	5.2
LaSalle	4.5
Catahoula	5.3
Vernon	5.2
Rapides	4.6
Concordia	5.3
Avoyelles	4.9
Beauregard	3.2
Allen	3.5
Evangeline	3.5
St. Landry	3.3
Pointe Coupee	4
West Feliciana	4.5
East Feliciana	4.6
St. Helena	4.8
Washington	5.1
Calcasieu	2.5
Jefferson Davis	3
Acadia	3.3
Lafayette	2.9
St. Martin	3.3
Iberia	3.3
Vermillion	3.1
St. Mary	6
Assumption	5.8
St. James	5.1
St. John the Baptist	5
St. Charles	4.8
Lafourche	5.5
Terrebonne	5.4
Orleans	2.6
St. Bernard	2.7
Plaquemines	2.6
Jefferson	2.4
St. Tammany	3.8
Tangipahoa	4.7
Livingston	3.9
West Baton Rouge	3.8
East Baton Rouge	3.6
Iberville	4.4
Ascension	3.4

Figure 2. Uninsured Adults (19-64)



**Table 2 Parish Children Uninsured Rates 2015-2019**

Parish	2015	2017	2019
Acadia	4.1%	2.7%	3.3%
Allen	3.9%	2.8%	3.5%
Ascension	2.7%	2.3%	3.4%
Assumption	3.3%	2.8%	5.8%
Avoyelles	5.9%	2.8%	4.9%
Beauregard	4.4%	2.5%	3.2%
Bienville	4.1%	2.9%	5.3%
Bossier	3.9%	2.3%	4.6%
Caddo	3.8%	2.4%	5.0%
Calcasieu	4.1%	2.2%	2.5%
Caldwell	5.5%	2.8%	3.9%
Cameron	2.7%	2.0%	2.5%
Catahoula	4.0%	3.1%	5.3%
Claiborne	5.2%	3.1%	5.9%
Concordia	4.2%	2.9%	5.3%
De Soto	4.0%	2.6%	5.0%
East Baton Rouge	3.7%	2.2%	3.6%
East Carroll	5.2%	3.2%	4.5%
East Feliciana	3.8%	3.0%	4.6%
Evangeline	4.2%	2.8%	3.5%
Franklin	4.1%	2.8%	3.9%
Grant	4.5%	2.9%	5.2%
Iberia	3.9%	2.8%	3.3%
Iberville	4.8%	2.8%	4.4%
Jackson	5.4%	2.6%	3.7%
Jefferson	3.2%	2.1%	2.4%
Jefferson Davis	3.2%	2.6%	3.0%
Lafayette	3.6%	2.3%	2.9%
Lafourche	3.2%	2.7%	5.5%
LaSalle	3.6%	2.7%	4.5%
Lincoln	4.1%	2.5%	3.7%
Livingston	3.7%	2.7%	3.9%
Madison	5.4%	3.1%	4.5%
Morehouse	3.9%	2.9%	4.0%
Natchitoches	4.0%	2.7%	5.4%
Orleans	4.6%	2.4%	2.6%
Ouachita	5.0%	2.5%	3.5%
Plaquemines	4.1%	2.3%	2.6%
Pointe Coupee	4.4%	2.6%	4.0%
Rapides	3.9%	2.6%	4.6%
Red River	3.8%	2.8%	5.1%
Richland	4.4%	3.0%	4.0%
Sabine	3.8%	2.8%	5.5%
St. Bernard	3.6%	2.8%	2.7%



Parish	2015	2017	2019
St. Charles	3.1%	2.2%	4.8%
St. Helena	6.3%	2.9%	4.8%
St. James	4.2%	2.5%	5.1%
St. John the Baptist	4.5%	2.5%	5.0%
St. Landry	4.0%	2.8%	3.3%
St. Martin	3.2%	2.9%	3.3%
St. Mary	3.6%	2.9%	6.0%
St. Tammany	2.8%	2.1%	3.8%
Tangipahoa	4.6%	2.9%	4.7%
Tensas	6.2%	2.8%	4.1%
Terrebonne	2.9%	2.6%	5.4%
Union	4.7%	2.7%	3.9%
Vermilion	4.7%	2.6%	3.1%
Vernon	3.4%	2.5%	5.2%
Washington	4.2%	3.0%	5.1%
Webster	3.5%	2.8%	5.5%
West Baton Rouge	3.3%	2.4%	3.8%
West Carroll	5.2%	3.0%	4.2%
West Feliciana	4.1%	2.6%	4.5%
Winn	5.0%	3.0%	5.4%

**Table 3 Parish Adults Uninsured Rates 2015-2019**

Parish	2015	2017	2019
Acadia	24.4%	11.7%	10.1%
Allen	25.6%	12.4%	13.5%
Ascension	18.2%	10.9%	6.7%
Assumption	21.0%	12.9%	12.0%
Avoyelles	23.4%	12.5%	9.6%
Beauregard	23.5%	10.9%	12.1%
Bienville	26.1%	12.9%	14.2%
Bossier	21.8%	9.9%	10.9%
Caddo	25.2%	11.7%	12.6%
Calcasieu	23.7%	11.0%	12.3%
Caldwell	25.5%	11.6%	13.1%
Cameron	18.2%	8.7%	10.5%
Catahoula	29.3%	13.7%	10.3%
Claiborne	27.1%	13.9%	15.3%
Concordia	27.6%	13.5%	11.0%
De Soto	23.2%	11.5%	12.1%
East Baton Rouge	21.2%	11.3%	7.9%
East Carroll	34.6%	17.7%	17.4%
East Feliciana	23.8%	14.6%	9.2%
Evangeline	24.2%	12.7%	11.6%
Franklin	28.0%	11.9%	13.1%
Grant	24.7%	12.5%	10.2%



Parish	2015	2017	2019
Iberia	23.2%	13.2%	10.7%
Iberville	23.1%	13.8%	9.2%
Jackson	24.0%	11.9%	13.7%
Jefferson	21.8%	9.9%	8.9%
Jefferson Davis	22.0%	11.4%	12.4%
Lafayette	20.4%	11.4%	8.9%
Lafourche	19.6%	10.7%	11.0%
LaSalle	22.5%	11.5%	8.9%
Lincoln	27.2%	10.9%	11.9%
Livingston	21.9%	12.2%	11.4%
Madison	29.1%	14.7%	15.9%
Morehouse	27.1%	14.0%	15.1%
Natchitoches	25.2%	12.5%	14.2%
Orleans	23.8%	12.5%	10.5%
Ouachita	25.1%	11.9%	13.0%
Plaquemines	21.4%	10.1%	9.5%
Pointe Coupee	20.0%	11.8%	8.2%
Rapides	20.5%	11.4%	8.9%
Red River	23.9%	14.2%	15.2%
Richland	26.6%	14.1%	15.5%
Sabine	22.0%	11.5%	13.7%
St. Bernard	26.0%	13.3%	11.0%
St. Charles	20.5%	10.0%	9.3%
St. Helena	27.8%	15.5%	16.6%
St. James	21.5%	12.3%	11.0%
St. John the Baptist	23.8%	12.1%	10.8%
St. Landry	24.4%	13.7%	11.8%
St. Martin	23.2%	13.7%	11.1%
St. Mary	24.5%	13.6%	13.6%
St. Tammany	17.9%	8.9%	10.0%
Tangipahoa	25.3%	13.6%	14.4%
Tensas	25.4%	12.3%	13.8%
Terrebonne	22.2%	11.5%	11.0%
Union	25.1%	11.9%	13.2%
Vermilion	22.9%	11.4%	9.7%
Vernon	22.4%	10.2%	9.1%
Washington	24.6%	13.4%	15.5%
Webster	24.4%	12.4%	14.0%
West Baton Rouge	20.8%	11.8%	8.2%
West Carroll	28.1%	12.4%	13.1%
West Feliciana	20.5%	11.5%	7.2%
Winn	26.2%	13.3%	10.2%

